(d) how Government will meet the requirements of the Indian Consumer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d) Due to the declining trend of sugar production during 1992-93 season and with a view to ensure sufficient availability of sugar for domestic consumption, Government has directed the export agency not to enter into any fresh contract for export of sugar, except the preferential quota to USA/EEC and a small quantity of levy sugar to Nepal. The total quantity of sugar exported from 01.04.1993 to 30.06.1993 has been intimated as 1.75 lakh tonnes by the export agency.

Ban of new contracts for export of sugar

4453. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued instructions to exporters not to enter new contracts for export of sugar; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to the declining trend in sugar production during 1992-93 season, Government has directed the export agency not to enter into any fresh contract for export of sugar, except the preferential quota to USA/EEC and a small quantity of levy sugar to Nepal.

Foodgrains in tribal area

4454. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRIFED under the Ministry of Welfare has procured foodgrains in Tribal areas;

(b) what were the support prices and the commodities of foodgrains in which these operations were undertaken;

(c) what was the total amount of foodgrains so procured last year; and

(d) whether such foodgrains were actually handed over to the Food Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) TRIFED has been engaged as agent of Food Corporation of India (FCI) to undertake procurement of wheat, paddy and coarse grains in tribal areas at Minimum Support Prices (MSP)/Procurement Prices fixed by the Government, which are as under for the current and previous Rabi/Kharif marketing seasons:—

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodities	MSP/Procurement Price	
	1992-93	1993-94
Wheat	275*	330*
Paddy	**1991-92**	**1992-93**
Common	230	270
Fine	240	280
Superfine	250	290
Coarsegrains (Jowar, Bajra, Ragi)	205	240
Maize	210	245

*Inclusive of Central bonus of Rs. 25/- per quintal.